

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of making a particulate "pearlescent" pigment for plastic products, <sup>said pigment comprising</sup> ~~which comprise~~ small hard resin particles of different sizes containing pearlescent reflective flakes which are aligned in each particle with their flat surfaces generally parallel,) the method comprising:

(mixing a binder resin with said pearlescent reflective flakes, solidifying the binder resin in such a way as to cause alignment of the flakes with their flat surfaces generally parallel, and comminuting the resultant solidified binder resin to make said small hard particles of at least two different sizes).

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said comminuting is carried out by grinding from a large sheet in which said reflective flakes are oriented.

3. A method of making a filled hard surfacing material having (a new bold and) <sup>an</sup> aesthetically pleasing appearance, comprising adding <sup>particulate</sup> pearlescent pigmenting ~~additive~~ ~~particles made according to claim 1~~ to a plastic material as a matrix to form a mix, and then forming and solidifying said mix.

<sup>^</sup> said pigment being made by

4. A method according to claim 3, comprising further adding raw coated reflective flakes in an amount up to 5% and orienting said flakes substantially parallel to opposite surfaces of said surfacing material.

5. A method according to claim 4 wherein the <sup>material</sup>plastic is a hard polyester or acrylic.

6. A method according to claim 3 wherein the <sup>material</sup>plastic is a hard polyester or acrylic.

09527291-031700